

6. A method as in claim 1, wherein the image sensor is configured to detect the detectable steady-state emission.

7. A method as in claim 1, wherein the emission time period is at least 10 nanoseconds.

8. A method as in claim 1, wherein exciting the species comprises exposing the species to electromagnetic radiation.

9. A method as in claim 1, wherein the exciting electromagnetic radiation is provided as a single pulse, a periodic pulse, a sequence of pulses, a pulse of continuously varying intensity, or any combination thereof.

10. A method as in claim 1, wherein the electromagnetic radiation is modulated by an electrical signal, shutter, refractory material, optical modulator, moving mirror, mechanical device, or light valve.

11. A method as in claim 1, wherein the electromagnetic radiation comprises visible light.

12. A method as in claim 1, wherein the electromagnetic radiation comprises substantially white light.

13. A method as in claim 1, wherein the electromagnetic radiation comprises discrete wavelength ranges.

14. A method as in claim 1, wherein exciting the species comprises exposing the species to pulsed and/or modulated light from an LED, an OLED, a fluorescent light, and/or an incandescent bulb.

15. A method as in claim 1, wherein exciting the species comprises exposing the species to a flash lamp.

16. A method as in claim 1, wherein exciting the species comprises applying a voltage, ionizing radiation, a physical force, or chemical reaction.

17. A method as in claim 1, wherein the species is associated with a packaging component.

18. A method as in claim 1, wherein the species undergoes a chemical and/or biological reaction upon excitation.

19. A method as in claim 1, wherein exposure to an analyte causes a change in one or more of an intensity of the emitted light, a polarization of the emitted light, a spatial profile of the emitted light or a change in the emission lifetime of the emissive species.

20. A method as in claim 1, further comprising a second step of activating an article.

21-25. (canceled)

\* \* \* \* \*